

William Preston Anderson to Andrew Jackson, May 10, 1807, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

W. P. ANDERSON TO JACKSON.

Federal Bottom, May 10, 1807.

Nothing but a combination of the most untoward circumstances, could prevent me from an obedience of the supa¹ issued by the S. court of the U. States in the case of Colo. Burr. Without enumerating these circumstances, it will be with you I know sufficient to say, that from them, it is impossible for me to visit Richmond at this time or at any time before the 1st. monday in august next. Besides my family cannot be left alone at this period. It would be to me not only a party of pleasure; but it would be perfectly agreeable to my inclination, to proceed on and attend this trial, if the same was within the compass of my power.

1 Subpoena.

Your correspondence with Colo. B. shews completely his objects at that period. You are certainly a material witness and so would I be. I could swear this among other things of no great consiquence, as coming from the Colo. I told him that you would not cooperate in the enterprize unless you had the order of government before you. He replied that he had or would have the G. orders and until they were produced he did not expect your assistance and that war was inevitable etc.

Situated as you and myself are you particularly (who by the rascally world that you care nothing about, has been termed one of his Colo. Burrs friends) it would seem more than requisit to obey the summons. The testimony given in would be published and after that nothing dare to be said even indulgent of suspicion. You can do as you plea[se] but, if you

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could attend, as it strikes me at present, I think it would be right and proper to do so. Yr
real friend